

properties. This fall, the Environmental Protection Agency expects to complete a study of the methods that could be used to clean up the Bliss and adjoining properties, and complete work on the Rosalie and Callahan properties.

To date, \$300,000 in state funds and nearly \$600,000 in federal funds have been spent on cleanup of the three areas. Under Superfund guidelines, the federal government will pay for 90 percent of the cost of the cleanup and the state 10 percent. Both agencies will seek to recover cleanup costs from responsible parties.

## Hazardous waste treatment center closes

The Department of Natural Resources was notified in late August that Browning-Ferris Industries of Kansas City Inc. (BFKC) intended to close its hazardous waste treatment center at Missouri City in Clay County.

In an Aug. 25 letter to department director Fred Lafser and Morris Kay, regional administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the company said that operation of the treatment center was "no longer economically feasible." Stephen H. Montee, company vice-president, cited "an insufficient market for the narrow class of industrial wastes, primarily from the petroleum refining industry, which the facility is permitted to receive under the Missouri permit." Two Kansas City area refineries, which generated such wastes, have closed within the last two years.

The Department of Natural Resources had issued a three-year permit in June to Browning-Ferris Industries Inc., the Houston-based parent company of BFKC, to continue operation of the treatment center. "We issued the permit to the parent company, instead of its Kansas City subsidiary, because we were concerned about the financial viability of the treatment center," Lafser said. "Our review of their financial data and the market demand for their process indicated that the operation might be in trouble. Since we had no concerns about the solvency of the parent company, we issued the permit to them. We felt the parent firm would be able to maintain a first-class operation despite the poor market conditions."

BFKC had filed an appeal of the department's decision with the Missouri Hazardous Waste Management Commission, challenging issuance of the permit to the parent company. A group of citizens opposed to the operation also appealed the department's decision to issue the permit. The commission had not yet scheduled the appeal hearing.

Lafser said the state would be working with the company and the Environmental Protection Agency to insure that the treatment center is properly closed and that the site is cared for after closure.

"We believe that the 'UqWaCon' process offered by BFKC is an excellent way to handle certain wastes. However, it is critical that any facility that operates in Missouri be financially sound to assure adequate protection of public health and the environment," Lafser said.

## ENFORCEMENT

### Litton pays \$50,000

### In hazardous waste settlement

According to an agreement finalized Aug. 17, Litton Systems, Inc., of Springfield paid \$50,000 for alleged violations of Missouri's Hazardous Waste Management Law. The agreement settles a lawsuit the Attorney General's Office filed against Litton in October 1982 in Greene County Circuit Court on behalf of the Department of Natural Resources.

In a six-count petition for penalties, the state alleged that Litton failed to operate a storage lagoon at its plant on West Kearney Street in compliance with the Missouri Hazardous Waste Management Law. A manufacturer of circuit boards for electronic equipment, Litton used the lagoon to store an estimated 10 million gallons of wastewater contaminated with toxic heavy metals and other hazardous wastes.

In March 1982, the department was alerted by city workers that the earthen banks of the lagoon were leaking and that a sinkhole had opened up near the lagoon. Fearing contamination of area ground water supplies, Natural Resources declared the situation an emergency and directed the company to lower the level of the lagoon. After the emergency passed, Litton closed the lagoon in compliance with a Natural Resources order.

Under the settlement, Litton paid \$44,748 into the Greene County School Fund, as specified by state law. The remaining \$5,252 was placed into the state's Hazardous Waste Fund as reimbursement for state monies spent controlling the emergency situation at the facility last year.

## Waste facility operator to clean up facility

The operator of a solid waste processing facility at Hannibal has been ordered to clean up his facility and to adhere to his approved "housekeeping schedule." In an order issued Aug. 1, the Department of Natural Resources cited J.T. Brown, operator of the J.T. Brown Enterprises Processing Facility, for violating the state's Solid Waste Management Law and regulations, and for failing to comply with the conditions of his operating permit. Brown received a permit from the department in February 1982 to accept refuse at his facility at 1408 E. Gordon and compact the non-recyclable waste for transport to a landfill daily. Brown was cited in the order for leaving waste at the facility overnight, failing to segregate and store salvageable materials in an acceptable manner, and failing to control litter.